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EMY

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Empowering Moroccan Youth

Connect
Institute



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Trains

Trains always fascinated me. One of the most impressive human inventions I would say.

Beyond loving the sounds of steel and iron, what I appreciate most is sitting in train stations, just to follow the back and forth movements.

When a train stops, a lot of people will get off, and a lot of people will get in.

A lot of people will take the one heading north, and others will take the one heading south.

A constant fascinating movement, showing just how each individual is confronted with different life conditions, how each one is seeking to arrive somewhere.

Some are excited to leave, thinking about whom will be waiting for them at the next station. Some could hardly leave home, a place, or a person they loved.

A train does not carry people or luggage; it only carries a lot of hopes, a lot of wishes, a lot of broken dreams, and a lot of different positive and negative emotions.

Then there's me thinking, what are all these people chasing? Are their dreams and their travels worth it? How many will reach their dreams and lead good lives?

You look at a train leaving and wonder: Will I ever see these people again? Will faith ever bring us closer?

- Be Nice. Everyone has their own fight.



Youssef Boutahir



Latifa Bella

La vie est dure, la vie est belle ! En tous cas la vie est une aventure.

Le jeune marocain a perdu l'envie de transformer son entourage, il cherche plutôt à vivre en confort au sein de la société et faire la paix avec.

En général, le jeune critique le système, il n'en est pas satisfait mais il ne cherche pas à évoluer les choses, il ne cherche qu'à rentrer dedans, parce que c'est difficile de travailler alors que si l'on veut évoluer il faut travailler.

Le chemin du succès c'est un chemin pour celui qui veut se distinguer mais c'est toujours plus compliqué de faire l'effort, de faire les choses différemment, de contrarier les parents, de déranger les voisins, de sortir de l'ordinaire ...

On vit dans une société où on a perdu la notion du travail.

Tout le monde souffre, et tout le monde espère être mieux mais personne ne veut bosser.

On nous a inculqué l'idée erronée que le succès et la réussite ne sont pas des conséquences d'un effort à fournir et d'un travail à faire mais plutôt d'une ligne tracée à suivre: étudier pour obtenir un diplôme pour se faire embaucher et garantir un salaire mensuel et exécuter certaines tâches dans un cadre précis et restreint.

Le mot "travail" en latin (trepalium) signifie souffrance et torture.

il faut commencer par être conscient du fait que pour produire et créer on se torture, on souffre, et le succès c'est le plaisir aboutit de cet effort.

Soyons conscient que le travail c'est aussi des valeurs à respecter et à s'approprier, le travail c'est l'engagement, la persévérance, l'endurance, l'ambition, la recherche de l'excellence, le partage et l'honnêteté avec soi et autrui.

Le succès et les valeurs ne peuvent pas être séparés.

Le succès est amant de l'humain qui se dépasse, qui se respecte et qui n'oublie jamais qu'il est sur terre pour une raison qui est de contribuer à l'avancement des choses où qu'il soit. Il n'est pas là pour manger, respirer, baiser et mourir.

Le succès est amant de celui qui vit avec des valeurs humaines.

Albert Einstein l'a dit: "N'essaie pas de devenir un homme de succès essaie plutôt de devenir un homme de valeurs".

PS : Ceci est une simple réflexion après une discussion très riche à propos de plusieurs sujets lors d'une session DARDACHA à Connect Institute. Je remercie tous ceux qui ont pris part à ce débat.

4 Tips for newcomers from a soon to be

Connect Institute Alumna

New members will soon be joining Connect Institute and specifically its Ecole Supérieure Alternative (ESA) for the school year 2016-2017. That is why, I thought of sharing some tips I learnt throughout my journey there and that I wish I started applying from the first day.

It's all about being there.

Attendance is the key thing here. You shouldn't "try your best" to be there, you should BE there. Every single activity is worth attending. I am sure that you will get to discover this throughout your journey at the institute. But, it is better to know it now so that you can start applying it starting from your first day there. I am aware that most of you have other engagements: school, work and such. But remember that there is this thing called time management. Trust me on this: you wouldn't want to miss on an important activity just because you have an exam you need to prepare for, or a friend you want to meet with. Don't get me wrong! I am not saying that you shouldn't do these things. What I am saying is that if you learn to manage your time, you will be able to do all these things and more. You can, for example, program the time you have an activity at the institute as a break time on your exam preparation schedule. It will do you good and give you a positive energy boost.

Just do it!

Most of the activities you will have will require your direct involvement and participation, like presentations, writing summaries, the famous [p+100+20] - an activity which you will get familiar with later on- and many other activities of the sort. That is only natural, since one of our mottos at the Connect Institute is "Learning by Doing". You won't be forced to do any of them, but you really should do them all! It does not matter whether you already know how to do

them or not, you will eventually get good through practice.

Learning to ask.

You have to ditch the "passive information consumer" attitude and ask questions. Don't worry about sounding or looking like an idiot. Because the environment at the Connect Institute is not like the one you usually encounter at school, or in our Moroccan society in general; no one will laugh at you, underestimate you or think you are stupid. The only things you will be getting are constructive feedbacks and valuable answers.

Stating your opinion.

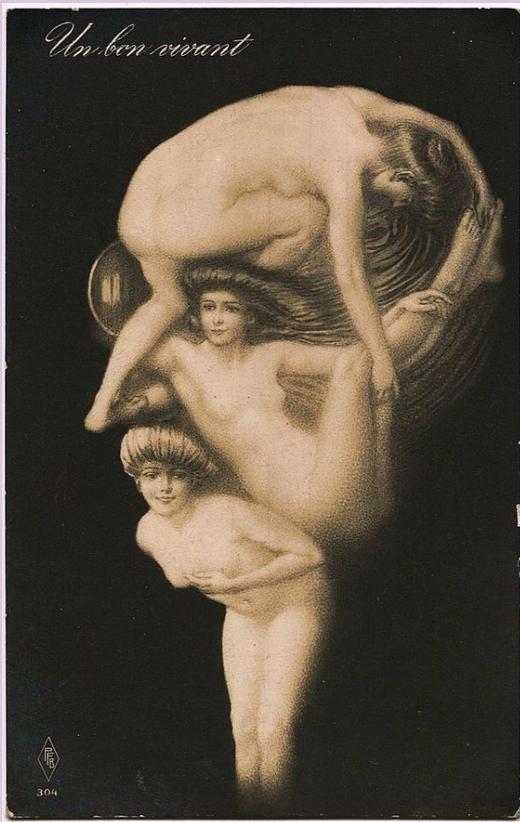
There will be a lot of articles, videos, and learning materials of the sort that will be shared with you by the staff. You might be asked to give your opinion. But, you should learn to always do that regardless of whether you were asked to or not. It will help you pay attention to details, evaluate your understanding of the material, and enhance your analytical mind.

You will eventually get the hang of these tips, and much more, throughout your journey as a member of the Connect Institute. For now, just keep them in mind and try to start applying them from the first day. Don't hesitate to reach out and connect with other alumni if you have any question. Happy journey and welcome to Connect Institute!



Fatima Zahra
El Hafa

Suffit-il juste d'exister ?



Dans ma société, l'Homme (avec un grand H) a malheureusement donné importance à des futilités inouïes. Il s'est concentré sur des choses qu'il aurait pu négliger si l'essence de la vie valait beaucoup plus pour lui. Notre raison d'être est parfois réduite, par certains esprits, à un comportement que l'on doit à nos ancêtres du monde animal : Vivre avec tout ce que ce mot veut dire à un animal et seul un animal. Je ne suis guère entrain d'insulter qui que ce soit et mes idées n'engagent que moi, mais j'ai réalisé que ce qui se fait n'est rien de plus qu'une conjugaison du verbe EXISTER.

Vous

savez, l'unique et profonde différence entre nous et les animaux, n'est pas que nous possédions des cerveaux ; la plupart des animaux ont des cerveaux et font preuve d'une intelligence qui leur est propre. Mais ils n'avaient point toute une philosophie de langage que seul l'Homme est parvenu à en développer les fondements et à en user pour communiquer ses expériences,

savoir-faire et être. De surcroit, l'homme était et est jusqu'à présent apte à s'instruire à partir de ses expériences et stocker ses dernières, formant LA CULTURE. Ce qui a donné naissance à une panoplie de civilisations de renommée.

L'essence de la vie est bel et bien plus précieuse que ces pratiques frivoles et répondues qui n'ont aucunement une place dans la sphère humaine. L'essence de la vie est plutôt d'avoir et tendre à transformer en actions des objectifs nobles dans sa vie, qui en parallèle ne nuiront à aucune espèce vivante sur terre. Somme toutes, c'est vivre et mourir HUMAIN ...Seulement que être humain requière aussi être un bon vivant, au sens strict du terme. Soit un conscient de l'histoire de l'humanité, qui excelle dans l'art de jouir de belle chose dans la planète bleue (musique, théâtre, cinéma, gastronomie, ...etc.), explorant d'autres horizons, qui se perde dans la beauté de la lecture, à chaque fois faisant de nouvelles rencontres qui inspireront son parcours.

Ce qui constitue un individu "bon vivant" n'est nullement atteint tout seul, il faut bien évidemment une volonté ardente pour y arriver. Une volonté qui dépasse le fait de vouloir juste exister sur terre, mais d'y vivre. Et un être humain vivant inspire une vie active, ou il est bel et bien productif et créatif, qui ne se lasse jamais de vouloir toujours apporter sa participation même minime au patrimoine culturel de l'humanité. Une qualité qui implique du travail, chacun sur sa personne pour en faire ressortir le mieux qui soit.



Yasmine
Boujerfaoui

You Will Never Succeed



Oumaima Fathi

This sentence is my favourite motivational method that wakes me up brutally from fantasies and brings me back to reality from that Platonist world.

Believe me you need this kind of motivation in your life. Being gentle on myself never worked out, especially when you live in a country called Morocco, the struggle is hundred times tough than anything you might find in developed countries.

In fact, here you will suffer much more on the psychological level- foremost part to be successful- because everything you might see, hear outside or watch on the national TV is mostly toxic, it paralyzes you in a way to make you feel useless, narrow-minded and powerless.

Though, if your beloved country drives you in a wrong pathway, don't complain, instead change yourself; take control upon your life and work hard on your goals.

You can create your own world in your small head, read books that will inspire you and meet people who will push you to be the best version of "you"; fall in love with art, make musical instruments your medicine and meditation/prayer your refugee.

Life doesn't need more complications, more hatred and more problems. Some people are already doing that job perfectly. All that the world needs today is your big heart, positive thoughts and your "humanity".

We humans, we have much more similarities than differences! Remember this.

You know that I'm different than you, I love Nass Ghiwane. I cannot live without the Moroccan Tea. I have a weird taste in clothes (My grandma/grandpa clothes inspire me! Well, you got it). I'm an owl, I hate mornings unless I'm going on a trip. I listen to Mashrou' leila most of the time, I enjoy their music the way I do while listening/singing Fayrouz' songs. I'm a quite person but when I talk someone should stop me. Last thing, I love Aliens, Mars, Elon Musk, Ouarzazate...

Yeah! Un/fortunately we are different. But, we don't have to be the same, to look or talk the same way to be peaceful beings who spread love, tolerance and peace.

Wherever and whatever you are; you have a mission in this life, a message to the world and a chance to impact the world, your community, your family and yourself.

Turn every single negative comment to an enormous energy that will push you forward.

You can and you will succeed when you acquire immunity toward the horrible things outside; and this only when you dive deep down your own beautiful world that you've built properly in your head.



How to feel depressed

I want to share with you my personal recipe to feel depressed. I tried this recipe several times and it was on point!

First off all, you need to think about all the opportunities that you've missed in life because you've been too scared to try something new, or you've failed to get your family and your friends' support to go for it. Then think about people who've been brave enough to face their fears and how their dreams came true, while you were sitting on the bench watching it happen.

By now, you'll start feeling sadness slipping into your heart mixed in with some guilt. The next step is to worry about the future. Think about all the hard times, the struggles, the fights waiting for you. This will add a bit of fear to the previous mix.

The final step is sharing. Find a person whose biggest concern is how to get an attractive body for the summer, or who's going to win the champions league, and share your thoughts with him or her. He or she will tell you that you're exaggerating and that life is beautiful, so you should stop complaining.

Now you're depressed. Enjoy it!



Rachida Akdaich



Who's the beggar now?

Maria Joudani



An old man in trashed clothes comes into the cafe, swirling around tables asking for people's pity. "sadaka a'allah", said the beggar while approaching our table. I ignored him, but my sister insisted on giving him something. The beggar thanked her and continued hovering the café's tables.

Few hours later, on my way home, I saw the same beggar withdrawing cash for an ATM.

